Rs. 3050 and Rs. 2550 is approximately 16:13:6:5. The base year for determining salaries of Government servants is decided by the expert bodies like Pay Commission. There is no proposal to revert to 1947 as the base year for this purpose.

Higher Pay Scale for Private Secretaries

3190. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Private Secretaries working in the Central Secretariat have not been given the scale of Rs. 8,000/- after completion of four years while the Section Officers of equivalent rank have been allowed to draw Rs. 8,000/- in 2003;

(b) if so, the reasons for the anomaly in the fixation of pay scale in respect of Private Secretaries and Section Officers as both are of the same rank in the Central Secretariat;

(c) whether any proposal relating to the revision of pay scale of Private Secretaries is pending; and

(d) if so, by then the revised pay scale would be implemented in respect of Private Secretaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) The post of Private Secretary and Section Officer in the Central Secretariat belong to two different services, namely Central Secretariat Stenographers' Service (CSSS) and Central Secretariat Service (CSS). Nature of work, duties and responsibilities of the Private Secretary and Section Officer are different. With effect from 3rd October, 2003, Section Officers of CSS have been granted Non-Functional Pay Scle of Rs. 8000-13500 after completion of four years' approved service.

(c) and (d) Government is yet to take a final decision regarding grant of Non-Functional Pay Scale of Rs. 8000-13500 to Private Secretaries of CSSS.

Constitution of Sixth Pay Commission

3191. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government Employees have threatened to launch a countrywide strike if their demand for setting up the Sixth Pay Commission is not heeded to;

(b) whether Government have decided to set up the Sixth Pay Commission; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (c) A representation was received in this regard. Sixth Pay Commission is not proposed to be constituted at this juncture due to the financial implication involved.

Infrastructure gap in States

3192. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Planning Commission has advocated the need for collective and concerted efforts between the Central and State Governments to bridge the critical gaps in infrastructure;

(b) if so, whether according to the Planning Commission this would help in creating investor friendly environment in backward States, as transfer of additional resources alone would not be able to address their problems;

(c) if so, to what extent these suggestions have been accepted by both the Central and State Governments; and

(d) the steps being taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Planning Commission has recognised that, transfer of additional resources alone would not be able to address the problems of the backward States and advocated the need for collective and concerted efforts between the Central and the State Governments to bridge the critical gaps in infrastructure and create investor friendly environment in those States. Towards achieving this objective the Central Government has launched, from time to time, several infrastructure developmental schemes such as: Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP), Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP), Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY), National Urban Renewal Mission, etc. Under these schemes funds are allocated by the Central Government and States are encouraged to undertake necessary policy and/or institutional reforms. The Government has also set up a "Committee on Infrastructure" and another on "Rural Infrastructure" under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister to address all infrastructure related issues comprehensively.